AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The claims in this listing will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A communications ~~protocol~~ method for use in a <u>wireless</u> network of devices, <u>comprising:</u>

<u>transmitting, from a first device, data in</u> ~~the protocol having a frame including~~ a first time slot ~~for transmitting data,;~~

<u>receiving, at one or more other devices, the data transmitted from the first device</u> ~~a second time slot, after the first time slot, for; and either~~

transmitting a first acknowledgement state <u>in a second time slot after the first time slot;</u> [[,]] ~~and a third time slot, after the second time slot, for; or~~

transmitting a second acknowledgement state <u>in a third time slot after the second time slot,</u>

<u>wherein the first and second acknowledgement states are either a positive acknowledge and a negative acknowledge, respectively, or a negative acknowledge and a positive acknowledge, respectively.</u>

2. (Currently Amended) A communications ~~protocol~~ <u>method</u> according to claim 1<u>,</u> wherein the first acknowledgement state is a positive acknowledge and the second acknowledgement state is a negative acknowledge.

3. (Currently Amended) A communications ~~protocol~~ <u>method</u> according to claim 2<u>,</u>

wherein the first time slot is variable in length and the second and third time slots are fixed in length.

4.   (Currently Amended) A communications ~~protocol~~ method according to claim 2,

wherein the positive acknowledge ~~includes the~~ comprises a transmission of a specific coded value containing sufficient redundancy to allow it to be recovered in the presence of received errors, and

the negative acknowledge ~~includes the~~ comprises a transmission of a specific coded value containing sufficient redundancy to allow it to be recovered in the presence of received errors.

5.   (Currently Amended) A radio communication system, ~~including~~ comprising a transceiver/transmitter and at least two transceiver/receivers,

wherein the transceiver/transmitter transmits data in a first time slot to the transceiver/receivers, ~~and wherein~~

upon receipt of the data, each of the transceiver/receivers ~~return~~ transmit either a first acknowledgement state in a second time slot, after the first time slot, or a second acknowledgement state in a third time slot after the second time slot, and

the first and second acknowledgement states are either a positive acknowledge and a negative acknowledge, respectively, or a negative acknowledge and a positive acknowledge, respectively.

6.   (Currently Amended) A radio communication system according to claim [[1]] 5,

wherein the first acknowledgement state is a positive acknowledge and the second acknowledgement state is a negative acknowledge.

7.   (Currently Amended) A radio communications system according to claim 6,

wherein the first time slot is variable in length and the second and third time slots are fixed in length.

8.   (Currently Amended) A radio communication system according to claim 7,

wherein each ~~transceiver~~ of the transceiver/receivers and the transceiver/transmitter monitors the transmission medium during any time slots during which each of the respective ~~transceiver~~ transceiver/receivers and the transceiver/transmitter is not transmitting.

9.   (Currently Amended) A radio communication system according to claim 8,

wherein upon each ~~transceiver/receiver~~ of the transceiver/receivers detecting a correctly coded transmission in the negative acknowledge time slot, each ~~transceiver/receiver~~ of the transceiver/receivers discards the data previously received in the first time slot.

10.   (Currently Amended) A radio communication system according to claim 9,

wherein upon detecting a correctly coded transmission in the negative acknowledge time slot, the transceiver/transmitter retransmits the data to each of the transceiver/receivers.

11.   (Currently Amended) A transceiver/receiver for use in a radio communication system
~~including~~ comprising at least one transceiver/transmitter and at least one other
transceiver/receiver, ~~in use, the transceiver/receiver~~

wherein, upon receiving a data packet in a first time slot from at least one of the
~~transceiver/transmitter~~ transceiver/transmitters, the transceiver/receiver either transmits a first
acknowledgement state in a second time slot, after the first time slot, or transmits a second
acknowledgement state in a third time slot, after the second time slot, and

the first and second acknowledgement states are either a positive acknowledge and a
negative acknowledge, respectively, or a negative acknowledge and a positive acknowledge,
respectively.

12.   (Currently Amended) A transceiver/receiver according to claim 11, wherein the
transceiver/receiver further receives the first acknowledgement state in the second time slot from
~~the~~ at least one of the other ~~transceiver/receiver~~ transceiver/receivers in the communication
system or receives the second acknowledgement state in the third time slot from ~~the~~ at least one
of the other ~~transceiver/receiver~~ transceiver/receivers in the communication system.

13.   (Currently Amended) A transceiver/receiver according to claim 12,
wherein the first acknowledgement state is a positive acknowledge, and the second
acknowledgement state is a negative acknowledge.

14.   (Currently Amended) A transceiver/receiver according to claim 13~~,~~

wherein the transceiver/receiver monitors ~~the~~ a communications medium during a time

slot during which the transceiver/receiver is not transmitting.

15.   (Currently Amended) A transceiver/receiver according to claim 11~~,~~

wherein upon receiving a negative acknowledge from ~~the~~ at least one of the other

~~transceiver/receiver~~ transceiver/receivers, the transceiver/receiver discards the data packet

received in the first time slot.

16.   (Currently Amended) A transceiver/receiver according to claim 15~~,~~

wherein the discarded data packet is replaced with data retransmitted by the

transceiver/transmitter.

17.   (Currently Amended) A transceiver/transmitter for use in a communication system

~~including~~ comprising at least one ~~other~~ transceiver/receiver,

wherein ~~in use,~~ the ~~transceiver/receiver~~ transceiver/transmitter transmits a data packet in

a first time slot to ~~the~~ at least one of the ~~transceiver/receiver~~ transceiver/receivers and receives

~~either~~ one or both of a first ~~acknowledge~~ acknowledgement state in a second time slot after the

first time slot from ~~one or more of the transceiver/receivers~~ at least one of the

transceiver/receivers ~~or~~ and ~~receives~~ a second acknowledgement state in a third time slot after

the second time slot from ~~at least one of the transceiver/receivers~~ at least one of the

transceiver/receivers, and

the first and second acknowledgement states are either a positive acknowledge and a negative acknowledge, respectively, and a negative acknowledge and a positive acknowledge, respectively.

18.   (Currently Amended) A transceiver/transmitter according to claim 17,

wherein the first acknowledgement state is a positive acknowledge and the second acknowledgement state is a negative acknowledge.

19.   (Currently Amended) A transceiver/transmitter according to claim 18,

wherein the transceiver/transmitter monitors ~~the~~ a communications medium during a time slot during which the transceiver/transmitter is not transmitting.

20.   (Currently Amended) A transceiver/transmitter according to claim 19,

wherein upon receiving a negative acknowledge, the transceiver/transmitter retransmits the data to ~~the~~ at least one of the transceiver/receivers ~~transceiver/receiver~~.

21.   (Currently Amended) In a wireless network including a transceiver/transmitter and at least two ~~transceivers/receivers~~ transceiver/receivers, a method of disseminating data to be shared ~~by~~ with the at least two transceiver/receivers, the method ~~including~~ comprising:

~~Transmitting~~ transmitting from the transceiver/transmitter, the data to the at least two transceiver/receivers;

~~Upon~~ upon unsuccessfully receiving the data ~~at~~ by at least one of the at least two transceiver/receivers, transmitting negative acknowledge data to indicate unsuccessful receipt of the data;

~~Retransmitting~~ retransmitting the data from the transceiver/transmitter; and

~~Replacing~~ replacing the data received by ~~the plurality of~~ each of the at least two transceiver/receivers with the retransmitted data in each of the at least two transceiver/receivers.

22. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 21,

wherein the negative acknowledge data is ~~also~~ received by the transceiver/transmitter and least one transceiver/receiver other than a transceiver/receiver which transmitted the negative acknowledge data.

23. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim ~~21~~ 22,

wherein upon receiving the negative acknowledge, ~~the other~~ transceiver/receivers that successfully received the data from the transceiver/transmitter discard the data received from the transceiver/transmitter before receiving the retransmitted data.

24. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 21,

wherein ~~the step of transmitting~~ the data is ~~done~~ transmitted in a first time slot, ~~the step of transmitting~~ the negative acknowledge is ~~done~~ transmitted in a second time slot, and ~~the step of retransmitting~~ the data is ~~done~~ retransmitted in a third time slot.

25. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 23,

wherein upon <u>each</u> successful receipt of data <u>by one of the transceiver/receivers,</u> the

<u>respective</u> transceiver/receiver transmits a positive acknowledge.

26.   (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 25<u>,</u>

wherein ~~the step of transmitting~~ the positive acknowledge is ~~done~~ <u>transmitted</u> in an

additional time slot between the first <u>time slot</u> and the second time slot.

27-30. (Cancelled)